

ABSTRACT

A vacuum arc evaporation source 30 evaporates cathodes by vacuum arc discharge to thereby generate plasmas 36 and 38 containing cathode materials. The vacuum arc evaporation source 30 has two cathodes 32 and 34 composed of different kinds of materials from each other and insulated electrically from each other. The cathodes 32 and 34 are disposed coaxially with each other through an insulating material 40. The two cathodes 32 and 34 are used switchably, so that a laminate film including a plurality of heterogeneous films can be formed by evaporation sources which are smaller in number than those in the related art.